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## DIGEST

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Pearson

HB No. 687

**Abstract:** Prohibits the practice of dentistry at elementary and secondary schools absent certain exceptions.

Proposed law prohibits the practice of dentistry in the buildings, improvements, grounds, or any other construction of elementary or secondary schools.

Proposed law permits the practice of dentistry on students within any building, improvement, other construction, or upon the grounds of any elementary or secondary school within the state of Louisiana provided that at least one of the following conditions is met:

- (1) The services performed are limited to dental sealants.
- (2) The services are limited to dental sealants, screenings, cleanings, radiographs, and flouride treatments provided that such services are performed at no charge to the patient, patient's parent or guardian, or any third-party payor.
- (3) The dentistry is practiced within a mobile dental unit owned and operated by the state or local government, within a federally qualified health center with permanent or mobile dental facilities, or within a school-based health clinic with permanent dental facilities, provided such government mobile dental unit service, federally qualified health center or school-based health clinic has been providing dental services on the property of a La. elementary or secondary school for at least six months total time during the five years immediately prior to the effective date of this legislation.
- (4) The dentistry is practiced within any rural community or other communities, with the approval of the superintendent of the respective elementary or secondary school districts, with a shortage or inadequate number of permanent dental offices as designated and determined by the La. State Board of Dentistry to be an underserved area for dental care.

(Adds R.S. 37:796)

### Summary of Amendments Adopted by House

Committee Amendments Proposed by House Committee on Health and Welfare to the original bill.

1. Clarifies the introductory language of the exemption provision by specifying that the practice of dentistry on students is permitted provided that at least one of the conditions enumerated in proposed law is met.
2. Deletes a provision that exempted sealants provided through programs administered by universities within the La. State University System and the University of La. System from the prohibition against the practice of dentistry in schools.
3. Adds a provision that exempts services performed that are limited to dental sealants from the prohibition against the practice of dentistry in schools.
4. Adds dental sealants to the list of allowable services that may be performed in schools if there is no charge to the patient, patient's parent or guardian, or any third-party payor.
5. Deletes a provision that exempted dental treatments within a federally qualified health center.
6. Adds a provision that allows dentistry that is practiced within a mobile dental unit owned and operated by the state or local government, within a federally qualified health center with permanent or mobile dental facilities, or within a school-based health clinic with permanent dental facilities, provided such government mobile dental unit service, federally qualified health center or school-based health clinic has been providing dental services on the property of a La. elementary or secondary school for at least six months total time during the five years immediately prior to the effective date of this legislation.
7. Adds a provision that allows dentistry that is practiced within any rural community or other communities, with the approval of the superintendent of the respective elementary or secondary school districts, with a shortage or inadequate number of permanent dental offices as designated and determined by the La. State Board of Dentistry to be an underserved area for dental care.